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Tuesday, February 5, 1952

I started off the morning by going to the chiropodist, and then I had various matters in the office to occupy me. Jimmy Riddleberger came to see me to say he had received notice of his reassignment to the Department to head the German Division as of April 1. Since he has already spent more than fifteen years on German questions, I think he is quite properly protesting against a transfer to this post. Such an assignment is unusual in the Foreign Service, since it narrows the experience of an officer, and almost inevitably results in a discrimination against him when a selection for the most important positions are made. Jimmy is not only a fine man, but an extremely able one, and his conscientiousness in accepting German duties has harmed his career.

This afternoon, Chuck Spofford came to see me and we talked of NATO affairs. Then I had a meeting with Ted Rousseau, Karl Cate, Bob Blake and Ian Fraser of the ~~American Library Board~~, of which I am Honorary President. They asked my help in trying to secure them

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further financial assistance for the support of their provincial library branches. I had a talk with Harold Callender about Franco-German matters. There is now great bitterness on both sides of the Rhine over the Saar issue and the alleged request by Adenauer for immediate entrance into NATO. I am convinced Adenauer is determined to bring Germany into the family of Western nations, but he talks too much and is tactless. The French on the other hand made, in my opinion, a bad mistake in timing when they changed the status of Grandval from High Commissioner to Ambassador to the Saar.

Preston Grover and Teddy White arrived to see me together, and afterwards David Schoenbrun. Tonight, Evangeline and I went to dinner at the Faramond's, 7 avenue Frederic le Play. Alphand and a lot of other people were there. We had great fun with singing skits, etc. All of us were dressed as if we were going to night clubs in St. Germain des Prés -- ~~most of the men in tweed suits~~. They had two guitarists who sing at one of the St. Germain restaurants and they were excellent, especially with their Spanish music. Home late.

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